[11th February 1955

MR. SPEAKER :—" ஹரிஜன மாணவர்கள் என்பதற்கும் ஹரிஜன கிறிஸ்துவ மாணவர்கள் என்பதற்கும் வித்தியாசம் இருக்கிறது."

House-sites for pavement-dwellers in the City.

* 613 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state with reference to answers, dated 8th April 1953, to questions Nos. 398 and 399—

(*a*) whether the Government have now any proposal for the provision of house-sites with sanitary amenities to the pavement and platform dwellers in the City of Madras; and

(*b*) whether they have since ascertained the approximate population of the pavement and platform dwellers of the Madras City?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) Yes, Sir. There are about 6,492 families comprising 20,746 members."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the pavements are intended for the use of pedestrians, will the Government see that these slums are cleared with the co-operation of the Corporation and that the City is made really beautiful? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, the Corporation has a scheme for accommodating 15,000 families in certain colonies and for this purpose they have to acquire 840 acres of land."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" Sir, as a matter of fact, the Corporation is demanding the entire amount as aid from the Central and the State Governments. Will the Government consider executing this scheme through its own departments, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the scheme of the Corporation for slum improvement estimated at Rs. 4·19 crores has been forwarded to the Central Government."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, have the Government taken any steps to find out whether these pavement dwellers are rural or urban people and if they are rural people, whether they are willing to leave the City if house-sites and lands are provided for them in their own villages? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, I presume they are people who have come to the City in search of work."

SRI M. R. RAMACHANDRAN :—" Sir, may I know whether the Government have taken note of the various uses to which these platforms are put by the pavement dwellers? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, it is considered undesirable that any people should be on the pavements."